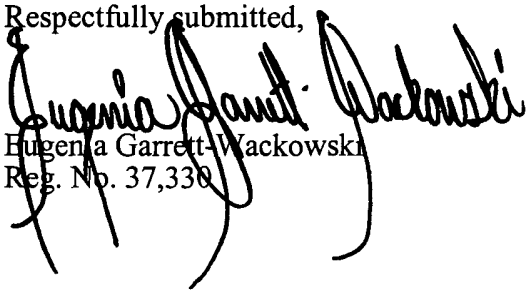
If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 415-576-0200.

Respectfully submitted,



Eugenia Garrett-Wackowski
Reg. No. 37,330

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP
Two Embarcadero Center, 8th Floor
San Francisco, California 94111-3834
Tel: (415) 576-0200
Fax: (415) 576-0300
EGW:dmw

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the Specification:

Paragraph beginning at line 13 of page 5 has been amended as follows:

Figure 5 shows the location of putative LXR response elements in the human SREBP-1a and SREBP-1c upstream regions. Also shown is the nucleotide sequence (SEQ ID NO:1) of the region upstream of exon 1c, which region includes the promoter for human SREBP-1c. Putative LXRα response elements are underlined.

Paragraph beginning at line 20 of page 6 has been amended as follows:

Figure 11. The sequence of PCR primers (SEQ ID NOS:2-21) used for amplifying mouse cDNA probes.

Paragraph beginning at line 20 of page 6 has been amended as follows:

To form a chimeric receptor for use in the assay of the invention, the ligand binding domain and the DNA binding domain are linked together. Suitable methods of forming such linkages are known to those of skill in the art. For a review of methods for constructing fusion proteins between receptor ligand binding domains and DNA binding domains, *see*, *e.g.*, Mattioni *et al.*, *Methods in Cell Biology* 43(Pt A):335-352 (1994). The linkage can be done using either recombinant or chemical methods. For example, a cysteine residue can be placed at either end of a domain so that the domain can be linked to another domain by, for example, a sulfide linkage. More typically, the ligand binding domains and DNA binding domains are joined by linkers, which are typically polypeptide sequences, such as polyglycine sequences of between about 5 and

200 amino acids, with between about 10-100 amino acids being typical. In some embodiments, proline residues are incorporated into the linker to prevent the formation of significant secondary structural elements by the linker. Preferred linkers are often flexible amino acid subsequences which are synthesized as part of a recombinant fusion protein. In one embodiment, the flexible linker is an amino acid subsequence comprising a proline such as Gly(x)-Pro-Gly(x) (SEQ ID NO:22) where x is a number between about 3 and about 100. A linker can also be a single peptide bond, or one or more amino acid residues. In other embodiments, a chemical linker is used to connect synthetically or recombinantly produced ligand binding domain and DNA binding domain subsequences. Such flexible linkers are known to persons of skill in the art. For example, poly(ethylene glycol) linkers are available from Shearwater Polymers, Inc. Huntsville, AL. These linkers optionally have amide linkages, sulfhydryl linkages, or heterofunctional linkages.